SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY GOVERNING BOARD OFFICE OF LICENSED ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CONCORD, NEW HAMSPHIRE

In The Matter Of:

Docket #2012-03

<u>Debra M. Campbell</u> Adjudicatory Proceeding

DECISION AND ORDER

By the Board:

Debra E. Kaufman, SLP, Chair, Laura Darling, SLP, Maureen Heckman,

SLP, Julie Introcaso, Public Member, Linda Hanrahan, SLP

Also present:

Tina M. Kelley, Administrator to the Board

Appearances:

Debra M. Campbell, SLP

James F. Allmendinger, Attorney

On February 3, 2012, the New Hampshire Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board ("Board") voted to DENY a request for reinstatement filed by Debra M. Campbell. <u>See</u> Order on Application Denial ("First Order"), dated February 3, 2012. Ms. Campbell petitioned the Board for a hearing on the denial of her reinstatement and the Board issued a "Notice of Hearing, Order to Show Cause" on March 16, 2012.

On June 7, 2012, the hearing was held in accordance with RSA 328-F: 23 and 328-F:24; Aph 200 and Spe 200. Ms. Campbell appeared with her counsel, Attorney James F. Allmendinger.

At the time of the hearing, the Board reviewed numerous exhibits submitted by the parties, including letters of reference submitted on Ms. Campbell's behalf, and heard the testimony of witnesses. Ms. Campbell testified also.

Ms. Campbell admitted to the allegations set forth in the First Order and the Board acknowledges that she has been forthcoming and cooperative throughout this process. It is clear from the record and Ms. Campbell's own admissions that she was negligent throughout the license renewal process. Ms. Campbell neglected her professional obligations and placed the responsibility for the maintenance for her license in the hands of her employer. Handing over the responsibility for reading, knowing and complying with professional obligations is explicitly

the responsibility of the person who owns the license. Additionally the status of one's license is the responsibility of the owner of that license and is not the responsibility one's employer.

Findings of Fact and Rulings of Law:

- The Petitioner practiced without a license from January 1, 2008 until June 21, 2010¹ in violation of RSA 328-F:23 II (c), RSA 328-F II (i), Spe 404.01(d), Spe 404.01(h), Spe 404.01(i) (1) (3), Principle of Ethics III, Rule A and B.
- The Petitioner has represented herself by using "SLP" implying that she is licensed to practice speech-language pathology and/or used the credentials "SLP" in conjunction with her name from January 1, 2008 until present in violation of RSA 326-F:8, Spe 404.01(d), Spe 404.01(i) and Principle of Ethics III, Rule A and B.
- The Board finds that the Petitioner practiced without a license from January 1, 2008 through June 21, 2010 and the used credentials implying that she was a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist in the State of New Hampshire from January 1, 2008 until present in violation of RSA 328-F:23 II. (c), RSA 328-F II (i), RSA 326-F:8, Spe 404.01(d), Spe 404.01(h), Spe 404.01(i), and Principle of Ethics III, Rule A and B.
- The Board finds that Ms. Campbell completed continuing education as follows:

Between August 21, 2007 and December 31, 2007 Ms. Campbell did not complete any continuing education;

Between January 1, 2008, and January 31, 2009 Ms. Campbell completed 20 hours of continuing education; and

Between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2011 Ms. Campbell completed 26 hours of continuing education.

If Ms. Campbell had been licensed in accordance with the Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board's laws and rules she would not have met the 30 hours of required continuing education per biennium which would have been in violation of Spe 305.01 and Spe 404.01(i)(3). "Continuing education is important to ensure that Speech-Language Pathologists' services are effective and of a quality consistent with the standard of care." RSA 328-F:2

¹ The date she claims to have ceased and desisted.

Despite her history of noncompliance with administrative rules and licensing requirements, the evidence presented to the Board supports a recommendation that Ms. Campbell's application for reinstatement be revisited promptly upon proof that she has remedied all past deficiencies and complied with all terms and conditions of this order as set forth below.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Ms. Campbell is assessed both the renewal fee and the late fee for each renewal period she has missed:

December 31, 2007

December 31, 2009

December 31, 2011

The total dollar amount of such fees is \$660.00. Ms. Campbell shall pay this fine in full within 90 days of the effective date of this Decision and Order, by delivering a money order or bank check, made payable to "Treasurer, State of New Hampshire," to the Board's office at 2 Industrial Park Drive, Concord, NH 03301.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Campbell:

- 1. Provide evidence of completion of an additional 6 hours of continuing education having occurred between August 21, 2007, and December 31, 2007, or complete, and provide evidence of, 6 hours of continuing education after the date of this order; and
- 2. Provide evidence of completion of an additional 10 hours of continuing education having occurred between January 1, 2008, and January 31, 2009, or complete, and provide evidence of, 10 hours of continuing education after the date of this order; and
- 3. Provide evidence of completion of an additional 4 hours of continuing education having occurred between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2011, or complete, and provide evidence of, 4 hours of continuing education after the date of this order.

Any continuing education required in Paragraphs 1 through 3 above that is earned after the date of this order cannot be used towards her 2013 continuing education requirements.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Campbell read the New Hampshire Statutes and Rules, specifically Chapter 328-F, Chapter 326-F, Office of Licensed Allied Health Professionals Governing Board Administrative Rules, and Speech-Language Pathology Administrative Rules. Once all laws and rules have been read, Ms. Campbell shall sign a statement attesting to the fact that she has read and understands these laws and rules and will abide by them.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Campbell shall bear all costs of complying with the terms of this Decision and Order, but she shall be permitted to share such costs with third parties.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Board may consider Ms. Campbell's compliance with the terms and conditions herein in any subsequent proceeding before the Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Decision and Order, as further defined below, Ms. Campbell shall furnish a copy of this Decision and Order to any current employer for whom the Applicant performs services as a Speech-Language Pathologist and to any agency or authority which licenses, certifies or credentials Speech-Language Pathologists, with which Ms. Campbell is presently affiliated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Campbell's breach of any terms and conditions of this Decision and Order shall constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to RSA 328-F:23, II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision and Order shall become a permanent part of Ms. Campbell's file, which is maintained by the Board as a public document.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision and Order shall take effect as a final Order of the Board on the date it is signed by an authorized representative of the Board.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Date: September 6, 2012

Tina Kelley, Administrator

Authorized Representative of the New Hampshire Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board